

# SAINT JOHN'S

THE MAGAZINE OF SAINT JOHN'S HEALTH CENTER FOUNDATION

Spring 2020

**MICHAEL  
RICKS TAKES  
THE REINS  
AS CHIEF  
EXECUTIVE**

**THE COMMUNITY  
IMPACT FUND  
HELPS BUILD  
HEALTHY  
FAMILIES**

## The Power of Partnership

Fueling the future of health care at Saint John's.





# THANK YOU CHRIS & DICK NEWMAN

When serious illness impacted the Newmans, Providence Saint John's Health Center made the experience easier. Chris and Dick never forgot.

We will never forget the Newmans gift of \$1 million in support of the Power of Partnership campaign for Providence Saint John's Health Center. When you give a gift to Saint John's Health Center Foundation, you can help fund breakthrough technology and innovative critical care in health areas such as cardiology, cancer, neuroscience, orthopedics, digestive health and women's health. Your essential support enables us to continue to serve you, your family and the local community we all love.



Please give now at [SaintJohnsFoundation.org](https://www.SaintJohnsFoundation.org)  
or call 310-829-8424, Monday through Friday,  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

the  
**Power of Partnership**  
**Saint John's**  
Health Center Foundation

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**On the Cover:** Saint John's Health Center Foundation Trustees, Kathleen McCarthy Kostlan, Bill Apfelbaum, Roger Wacker and Gloria Gebbia, give their enthusiastic support to Michael Ricks, the new chief executive of Providence Saint John's Health Center, and his vision for the future.

## EDITORIAL STAFF

President and CEO, Saint John's Health Center Foundation  
**Robert O. Klein**  
Chief Executive, Providence Saint John's Health Center  
**Michael Ricks**  
Director, Marketing and Communications,  
Saint John's Health Center Foundation  
**Melissa Thrasher**

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## MOON TIDE

VP, Branded Media: Emily S. Baker  
Creative Director: Ajay Peckham  
Editor: Shari Roan  
Copy Editor: Laura Watts

Contributors: Victoria Clayton, Laurel DiGangi, Sandi Draper, Robin Heffler, Nancy Brands Ward  
Photographers: Kristin Anderson, Carly Baldwin, Jeff Berting, Kremer Johnson Photography, Phillip Graybill, Fred Siegel, The Matthew Smith  
Managing Partners: Charles C. Koones, Todd Klawin

» In my first six months as chief executive, I'm so impressed by the comprehensive, compassionate care that Saint John's provides. It's clear to me as I engage with caregivers and patients, that it's an integral part of the culture here, and I'm so proud to be a part of that. We are stewards of a culture of care that benefits every patient. It's our mission and ministry as well as our legacy.

But Saint John's is more than just a hospital. We are also a renowned research center whose combined resources include the John Wayne Cancer Institute, the Pacific Neuroscience Institute and working partnerships with many institutions locally and globally. The research done here is changing the face of health care in many medical realms, from neurosurgical techniques to immunotherapy for cancer. Our patients benefit by having early access to clinical trials, close interaction between clinicians and researchers, and a nonstop updating of knowledge, skills and technology.

We are also a bold pioneer, leading the way into the future with not only the latest technology but also innovative programs that seek to improve the patient experience in every way possible. That's why the Power of Partnership campaign to raise \$150 million in philanthropy is so important. With these funds, we will continue to advance our health center and current institutes but we will also create four additional institutes spanning women's health, digestive health, orthopedics and spine, and heart and vascular. Replicating our unique institute model of university-level care and research in a community hospital setting known for its personalized and exceptional experience across these other service areas will reinforce Saint John's as the preferred and premier provider for the Westside.

Being all of these things means constantly thinking of the future while attending to the present. *Tomorrow's* Saint John's is being thought about and planned *today*. The Power of Partnership campaign is how we get there.

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*Michael Ricks*

**MICHAEL RICKS**

Chief Executive  
Providence Saint John's Health Center  
John Wayne Cancer Institute



*Robert O. Klein*

**ROBERT O. KLEIN**  
 President and CEO  
 Saint John's Health Center Foundation

*Mary E. Flaherty*

**MARY FLAHERTY**  
 Chair  
 Saint John's Health Center Foundation Board of Trustees

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» It takes a special combination of circumstances to build a truly exceptional health care institution. As we launch the Power of Partnership campaign to raise \$150 million for Saint John's, we do so with these circumstances in our favor: exceptional people serving as leaders, physicians and faculty who possess an innovative and inspiring vision for the future at a time when health care is on the cusp of enormous change.

With our new chief executive, Michael Ricks at the helm, our vision for Saint John's is emboldened to make this campus the premier and preferred health care provider on the Westside and beyond. Through the Power of Partnership, we will innovate the health center and its research entities, John Wayne Cancer Institute and Pacific Neuroscience Institute, while also creating four additional institutes, strengthening our capabilities across the continuum of care.

Such a vision, in turn, attracts the deeply dedicated people for whom being a physician or nurse or other health care professional is far more than just a job. These are the people our patients tell us about in moving stories: the nurse who listened and comforted them when they were anxious or the doctor who stayed late into the night to make sure a patient was stable after a major procedure.

These grateful patients often ask, "How can I help?" That's where partnerships begin and how Saint John's has become all it is. Community support is the final, essential component in creating an exceptional health care institution. The other elements—state-of-the-art facilities and technology, top-flight health care professionals, world-class researchers—all depend on strong philanthropic support. Our success is built on the strength of community support for our mission and the willingness of donors to join us in sustaining our mission and vision.

We are grateful for the philanthropic generosity that has created this unique institution, and we invite your support of and engagement with our vision for the future of Providence Saint John's Health Center. This is a very exciting time in medical history, and we are honored to be playing a key role, sustained by so many people who share our excitement and commitment.

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» **REALITY SURGERY**



Surgeons at Saint John’s are at the forefront of technology that helps them conduct surgery more efficiently and as safely as possible. Jennifer Linehan, MD, director of urology translational research at the John Wayne Cancer Institute, is a co-author of a study published in September looking at the value of using 3-D virtual reality technology in kidney surgery.

The study, published in *JAMA Network Open*, involved a clinical trial of 92 patients undergoing robotic-assisted partial nephrectomy. The patients were randomly assigned to a group whose surgeons used the usual preoperative planning with CT or MRI imaging or a group in which that imaging was augmented with a 3-D virtual reality model. The model was viewed on the surgeon’s smartphone in 3-D format or on a virtual reality headset.

The study found that the patients whose operations were performed with the aid of 3-D virtual reality models had shorter surgeries, less blood loss and shorter hospital stays.

“The 3-D virtual reality takes out all of the guesswork,” says Dr. Linehan. “This also has been incredibly useful to explain to patients the specifics of the surgery, especially when describing the risks.”

» **ADDRESSING PATIENT CONCERNS QUICKLY**

Speed is crucial to anxious women who find a breast lump or some other suspicious symptom. Since opening in April 2018, the Breast Health Clinic at the Margie Petersen Breast Center has placed efficiency at the core of its service so that patients’ concerns are addressed.

**3** The average number of days to imaging for a patient with a concern

**5** Days from initial consult to diagnosis

Patients who received same-day imaging

**49%**

Patients who received a confirmed diagnosis the same day as their initial appointment

**43.7%**

“The clinic is urgent care for your breasts. By offering same-day appointments and expedited imaging, we are able to provide a faster diagnosis, decrease the anxiety surrounding the unknown and provide faster treatment.”

– TARA JEAN KAYS, RN,  
MARGIE PETERSEN BREAST CENTER

## » YOU CAN HELP STOP FLU

It's not too late to get a flu shot, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The vaccine is the best way to protect yourself from flu and help stop the spread of the virus to others.

"Vaccination helps prevent the spread of the flu virus to everyone, especially those who have low immunity and those who are young or elderly," says Mary Lempriere, regional manager of caregiver health operations. "Flu has the most severe impact on those groups. Vaccination also helps with the huge financial impact flu has on the economy—as having employees out ill from flu reduces productivity for several weeks."

At Saint John's, an annual "mass vaccination" event is held each fall in the cafeteria to provide flu shots to all caregivers. Shots were also provided to caregivers at outside clinics.

# 789

SAINT JOHN'S  
CAREGIVERS  
RECEIVED THE  
FLU VACCINE  
DURING THE  
2019 MASS  
VACCINATION  
EVENT

**"Washing your hands plays a huge role in preventing the spread of the flu virus."**

— MARY LEMPRIERE, RN

## » TIPS TO STOP FLU



Avoid touching eyes, nose, mouth



Cover your cough and sneeze



Stay home if you're sick



Wash your hands



Avoid contact with sick people

## » FLU VACCINATION REDUCES THE RISK OF:

- ✓ Flu-related deaths **65%**
- ✓ Pediatric ICU admissions **74%**
- ✓ Hospitalizations among adults **40%**



UPCOMING

MAY 6

**Irene Dunne Guild's Think Pink for Women's Wellness**

Upper Bel Air Bay Club  
8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.



MAY 6

**ABC's Mother's Day Luncheon**

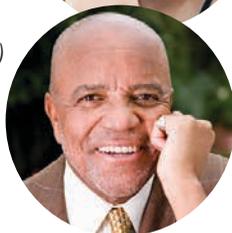
Four Seasons Hotel (on Doheny Dr.)  
10:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.



MAY 9

**John Wayne Cancer Institute Auxiliary's Odyssey Ball**

Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows  
6 p.m.



Honoring Berry Gordy, "True Grit" Humanitarian Award and Erik G. Wexler, "The Duke" Special Service Award

For more information on this and other upcoming events, please contact Tess Csiszar at 310-829-8168 or Theresa.Csiszar@stjohns.org

**Remembering Dr. John R. Jalas**

The Saint John's community mourns the passing of John R. Jalas, MD, PhD, who died last October 5 of cancer. Dr. Jalas was 48. A native of Wisconsin, he attended the University of Minnesota, receiving an MD/PhD in 2005. After residency at the University of California, San Francisco, he joined Saint John's Health Center as a pathologist in 2010. He oversaw the chemistry and hematology labs and partnered in research projects at the John Wayne Cancer Institute. He garnered many professional awards and was beloved by his colleagues. The Saint John's pathology department will dedicate a research library in his name. Dr. Jalas is survived by his wife, Shirley.



**Dietary Supplements For Heart Health Don't Stack Up**

Americans spend about \$31 billion a year purchasing vitamins and other dietary supplements, but they aren't getting a good return on their money, according to a study published recently in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*. Researchers pooled data from 277 clinical trials using 24 dietary supplement interventions to assess how well the interventions improved health.

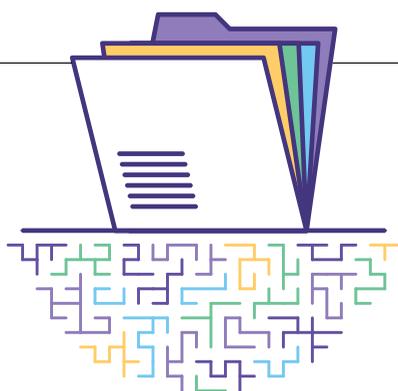
While most of the supplements weren't harmful, the study showed most don't improve heart health or extend life. Positive effects were only found from omega-3 fatty acids and folic acid supplements for some people. The research showed the combination of calcium and vitamin D for bone health—a popular strategy embraced by millions of people—may slightly increase the risk of stroke.

The researchers' take-home advice? Focus on getting nutrients from a heart-healthy diet and adopt a low-salt diet, which was shown in the study to reduce death by 10%.

**KEY FINDINGS:**

- CALCIUM AND VITAMIN D TOGETHER INCREASED STROKE RISK BY **17%**
- FOLIC ACID REDUCED STROKE RISK BY **20%**
- OMEGA-3 SUPPLEMENTS REDUCED THE RISK OF HEART ATTACK AND HEART DISEASE BY **7%**
- A LOW-SALT DIET LOWERED THE RISK OF DEATH BY **10%**





## The Research Front

Our physicians and researchers are active throughout the year publishing studies in medical journals and presenting their research at conferences around the world. Here's a look at some of our faculty's most recent and compelling work.

### JANIE GRUMLEY, MD,

director of the Comprehensive Breast Program, Margie Petersen Breast Center, co-authored a study published in September in the *Annals of Surgical Oncology* on oncoplasty for patients with subareolar tumors. Oncoplasty is a breast-conserving surgical technique developed to provide breast surgery patients with optimal cosmetic results. The paper discussed a tumor called subareolar that occurs on or near the nipple and areola that is challenging to remove while obtaining a good cosmetic result. The study of 23 women showed the single-stage operation resulted in good cosmetic outcomes for 21 of the 23 patients. The procedure allows patients to avoid mastectomy and minimize the number of operations required for reconstruction while maximizing good cosmetic results, the authors said.

### DIEGO MARZESE, PHD,

assistant professor of molecular oncology at John Wayne Cancer Institute, was the lead author of a paper published in October in the *Annals of Surgical Oncology* that sheds light on different subtypes of triple-negative breast cancer—one of the most lethal types of breast cancer. The analysis showed four subtypes of the disease. Patients with one of the four types, dubbed Epi-CL-B tumors, had significantly worse outcomes. This information will be useful to develop better treatments for the disease tailored to molecular and epigenetic characteristics.

### OSITA ONUGHA, MD,

assistant professor of thoracic surgery at the John Wayne Cancer Institute, co-authored a paper in *Cancer Genomics Proteomics* that describes an investigational test for detecting early-stage lung cancer in patients before they develop symptoms. Lung cancer is often detected at an advanced stage, when the chances for long-term survival are reduced. The study examined the blood samples of 1,497 people to identify specific biomarkers indicating lung cancer. The researchers identified 33 protein biomarkers. The test detected early-stage non-small cell lung cancer with 90% accuracy and 80% sensitivity. While more research is needed, this type of blood test could be used with low-dose CT scanning to find lung cancer earlier in people at high-risk for the disease.

## Don't Let Politics Drag You Down

Americans may be making themselves sick over politics, according to a recent study. The campaign ads, social media chatter and 24-hour news cycles are difficult to escape, while the rhetoric of a deeply divided country is often harsh.

The study, published in the journal *PLOS ONE*, shows the health costs of “emotionally wrenching” political polarization, said the authors, who noted that politics has become a bit of a public health crisis. They surveyed 800 American adults and found 40% said politics is stressing them out, and 1 in 5 said they are losing sleep over politics.

“Politics is really negatively affecting a lot of people's lives, or at least they're perceiving that politics is really negatively affecting their lives in deep and meaningful ways,” said one of the study's authors, Kevin Smith of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. “Stress is a real phenomenon that can have disastrous health effects.”



### HEALTH IMPACTED BY POLITICS

#### SURVEY RESPONDENTS WHO SAID POLITICS HAVE CAUSED:

STRESS.....	38%	LOSING TEMPER .....	29.3%
DEPRESSED FEELINGS.....	26.4%	DAMAGED FRIENDSHIPS .....	20%
LOST SLEEP .....	18.3%	FATIGUE.....	20%
ADVERSE PHYSICAL HEALTH	11.5%	SUICIDAL THOUGHTS .....	4%

Source: Plos One

## Welcome to the New Trustees

Saint John's Health Center Foundation is pleased to announce the addition of six individuals to our board of trustees. We thank all our trustees for their time, effort and dedication to making our hospital the pride of the Westside.



**WILLIAM S. ANDERSON**

William S. Anderson is the executive chairman of Topa Equities, Ltd., a diversified holding company based in Los Angeles. He is also the CEO of First Beverage Group, a company he founded in 2005 in response to the beverage industry's need for a dedicated financial services firm. Through the company's private equity fund, First Beverage advises and invests in innovative and transformational beverage brands. Prior to joining Topa, Anderson was an attorney with O'Melveny & Myers in Los Angeles and a legislative assistant to U.S. Senator George J. Mitchell (D-Maine). He serves on the board of directors of Topa Equities, Ltd. and First Beverage Group and is on the advisory board of the University of California, Los Angeles, Anderson School of Management. Anderson is the former chairman of the board of the Weingart Center, one of the nation's largest facilities for the homeless, and is now chairman of the board of Experience Camps, a national nonprofit organization that provides free, one-week camps for children who have experienced the death of a parent, sibling or primary caregiver. He received his law degree from UCLA.



**RISA GERTNER**

Risa Gertner is a 25-year veteran of Creative Artists Agency (CAA). She serves on the agency's management committee and is co-head of its industry-leading Motion Picture Group. As a member of CAA's senior leadership team, Gertner plays an instrumental role in the day-to-day operations of the company. She helps guide the overall strategic direction of the agency's motion picture activities across the entertainment landscape. In addition to her leadership roles, Gertner represents many of the industry's most acclaimed storytellers. With one of the premier writer-producer client rosters in the business, Gertner has been a driving force in creating a new paradigm of deal structures, securing unprecedented first-dollar deals for clients with studios. As a result, her clients are the driving force of some of the most successful film franchises today. A native of Toronto, Canada, Gertner graduated from Brandeis University.



**KRIS GIBELLO**

Kris Gibello is a fourth-generation Californian, born and raised in Pacific Palisades. After attending local schools, she attended the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington. She was married to the late Mark Gibello, a long-time Saint John's Health Center Foundation trustee and member of the health center board of directors. The couple were actively involved in foundation activities for more than 20 years, serving on the Challenge to Lead Campaign Council and generously hosting many foundation events at their home in the Palisades. Gibello has also served on the boards of the Westside Guild of Children's Hospital and the Santa Monica-Westside Charity League and has supported the Children's Bureau Foundation. Gibello joined the Irene Dunne Guild in 2000 and has held many board positions. In 2002 she initiated the guild's first Patron Drive, an annual fundraiser that has provided significant funding for vital programs and services at the hospital. She lives in the Palisades and has four children and eight grandchildren.



**PETER C.D. PELIKAN, MD**

Peter C.D. Pelikan, MD, is a native of New York City who graduated from the Bronx High School of Science. He majored in biology at Yale University and graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1979. After an internal medicine residency at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, he completed a fellowship in cardiology at Johns Hopkins Hospital in 1985. He returned to Harbor-UCLA Medical Center as assistant professor of medicine and co-director of the cardiac catheterization laboratory. In 1989 he left academic medicine to join Pacific Heart Institute, where he is an interventional and consulting cardiologist. Dr. Pelikan is the medical director of the cardiac catheterization laboratory at Providence Saint John's Health Center, has served as medical staff president and is active in hospital leadership. His

medical interests include coronary and structural heart intervention, actively performing coronary stenting, TAVR, MitraClip and Watchman implantation. He is also active in peripheral angiography and intervention/stenting as well as consultative cardiology. An avid skier and fly-fisher, Dr. Pelikan loves the outdoors. He is also learning to play the piano.



**JILL POSNICK**

Jill Posnick is the executive director of marketing and communications for the Milken Institute. Since joining the organization in 2017, Posnick has led the institute's global communications strategy—amplifying the impact of its programs, events and research by extending the reach of its nonpartisan policy analyses, promoting its brand worldwide and engaging with a broad range of stakeholders.

While at the Milken Institute, Posnick has directed the development and roll-out of a new visual identity, including introduction of a new logo and website. Posnick began her career as a financial analyst at Goldman Sachs and has worked in corporate communications for a number of agencies and companies. She served for more than 10 years in director and managing director roles at Accenture, leading integrated marketing efforts for most of the company's business areas. In 2008 Posnick founded and led JP Advisory, a strategic communications firm specializing in marketing and investor communications. She also served on the board of the nonprofit HealthCorps for eight years. Posnick holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Wellesley College and received her MBA from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. She and her husband, Kenny Slutsky, live in Manhattan Beach.

**BRENT STRATTON**

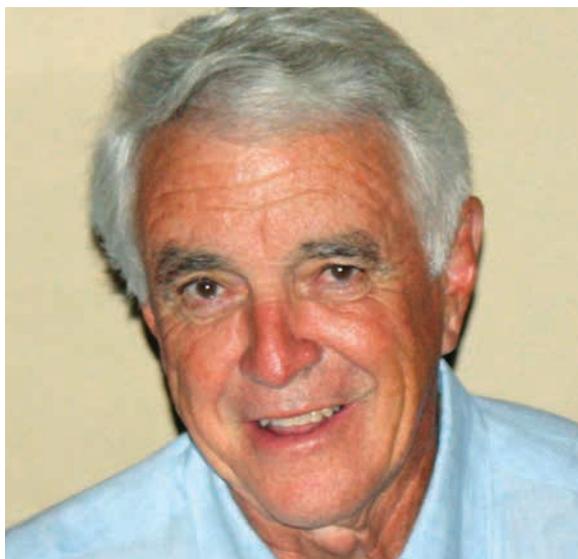
Brent Stratton is the co-president of Maxon Lift Corp, a large manufacturer of truck componentry located in Santa Fe Springs, California.

Stratton is a native of St. Paul, Minnesota, and was moved to Los Angeles by the 3M Corporation after graduating from the University of Vermont. After quickly adapting to the warm climate of Southern California, he pursued his MBA at the University of Southern California where he met his wife, Maxine. In 2003 the couple took over the management of Maxon and have been growing the company together ever since. Stratton has also served on boards in the transportation industry. He and Maxine have two boys, Murphy and Jasper, and have been active on boards at their sons' schools. In addition, Maxine started Paws for Life K9 Rescue, which places rescue dogs in the California prison system where inmates train the dogs as support animals. Once the dogs have completed their training, they are given to veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder.



## In Memoriam

Saint John's Health Center Foundation is saddened by the loss of the following trustees and is deeply grateful for their dedication, unwavering support and generous donations.



### A Redmond Doms

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A. Redmond "Rusty" Doms Jr. died March 25, after a three-year battle with glioblastoma. Doms, 78, was a longtime member of the Saint John's Health Center Foundation, joining in 1996. He enjoyed a successful career in real estate and devoted his time in retirement to many foundation projects. He was instrumental in the rebuilding of the campus following the 1994 Northridge earthquake and partnered with the late Jerry Epstein on many key development projects at Saint John's. Doms chaired the foundation board from 2001 to 2004 and most recently served as special adviser to the Pacific Neuroscience Institute Foundation Board. Doms is survived by his wife, Mary Anne, and daughters Taylor and Whitney.



### Carolyn Dirks

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Foundation life trustee Carolyn Dirks died September 9 at age 91. Dirks joined the foundation board in 2004 and became a life trustee in 2011. She was also a member of the board of advisers for the John Wayne Cancer Institute, where she contributed to the founding of the Dirks/Dougherty Laboratory for Cancer Research. Dirks and her husband, Brett Dougherty, made many generous donations to the health center as well, including funds to help rebuild the hospital after the 1994 earthquake. Dirks retired from a career in the fashion industry and went on to serve as president of the Joseph B. Gould Foundation, which was started by her father. Dirks is survived by her husband, Brett Dougherty, their son Martin and daughter-in-law Geraldine and their children Orla and Conor.



## Jerry B. Epstein

Foundation trustee Jerry Epstein died September 2, at age 96. Epstein was a cherished friend to Saint John's, becoming a trustee in 1975. He served as foundation chair from 2004 to 2006 and participated on many health center and foundation committees, including the inaugural Jimmy Stewart Relay Marathon, the Development Oversight Committee and the Building Committee. He also served on the health center board of directors from 1995 to 2001. Epstein was a World War II veteran who went on to a successful career in real estate, which included the development of Marina Del Rey. He and his late wife, Pat, were married 66 years.



## Barron Hilton

Life Trustee Barron Hilton died September 19 at age 91. Following in his father, Conrad N. Hilton's legacy of serving on the Board of Regents and president of the Men's Committee of Saint John's Hospital, Hilton became a foundation trustee in 1975. He generously supported Saint John's for many decades, including key gifts to the Saint John's Child and Family Development Center. During his life, Hilton oversaw his father's hotel empire, as well as one of the largest private philanthropic organizations in the world, helping to build Conrad Hilton's original \$160 million gift of stock to the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation into an endowment of more than \$2.9 billion. He is survived by his eight children, 15 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.



## Virginia Zamboni

Foundation honorary trustee Virginia Zamboni died December 9. Zamboni, 98, was a longtime supporter of Providence Saint John's Health Center, becoming involved in the hospital in 1969 as a volunteer with the Saint John's Women's Guild. She served as president of the guild and later became director of volunteers at Saint John's. In 1976, she became executive vice president of the foundation, a position she held until 1993. Over those years, Zamboni worked on many fundraising events and galas, including the early years of the Chautauqua trustee retreat weekend and the Jimmy Stewart Relay Marathon. Zamboni lived in retirement in Rancho Mirage where she supported several Catholic institutions.

# Ready for the Challenge

Michael Ricks brings an iron will to his new post.

BY NANCY BRANDS WARD / PHOTOGRAPHED BY FRED SEGAL



Michael Ricks, who took over in October as chief executive of Providence Saint John's Health Center and the John Wayne Cancer Institute, brings to the job two decades of health administrative leadership, a clear understanding of the way health care is evolving and an ambitious plan for taking Saint John's to the next level of excellence. He also possesses the stamina and determination of an Ironman participant—which he is.

Ricks says he will give Saint John's his best effort. "Saint John's has a legacy of providing cutting-edge, academic-level care with personalized, high-touch care in a community setting. I love working for an organization that has that reputation. There is an opportunity to be even better and more advanced than it is today. That's the plan, and we're going to continue to build our portfolio and expand to meet the needs of the community."

Over the next three to five years, Ricks says his aims will be threefold. First, he will direct efforts toward regaining some of the market share lost over the past decade to local academic medical institutions, re-establishing Saint John's as the preferred and premier provider for the Westside community.

Second, Ricks intends to establish four new institutes—for orthopedic and spine, heart and vascular, women's health and digestive health—of stature equal to the Health Center's John Wayne Cancer Institute and Pacific Neuroscience Institute. Third, Ricks envisions a network of ambulatory health centers in pockets from Malibu to Playa Vista and communities in between to create an ambulatory care network that's vital to the community as medical care continues to evolve from inpatient to ambulatory settings.

"We also have to continue to align with our community-based physician partners, who are critical to the success of the institutes and providing exceptional care close to home," Ricks says. "We have a unique opportunity to offer university-level care and research in a community hospital setting known for its personalized and exceptional experience. Our philanthropic partners at the foundation will be key to achieving this."

Since taking over on October 1, the 49-year-old Ricks says he has been impressed with Saint John's medical staff, the organization's frontline

staff and the Westside community. "I love how engaged the medical staff is; they're 'all in' when it comes to providing excellent care," he says. "Our patients tell us they have an exceptional experience when accessing services at Saint John's, and that's a credit to our frontline staff."

He also calls the community's support for Saint John's unparalleled. "The community takes ownership of this hospital. They give so much of their time, money and resources to further the advancement of patient care at Saint John's."

Southern California coastal communities hold a special place in Ricks' heart. He was born in Laguna Beach and most recently served as executive vice president and chief operating officer at Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian in Newport Beach—affiliated with the Providence St. Joseph Health system to which Saint John's belongs.

Prior to that, Ricks was a COO and CEO to two hospitals at Dignity Health after having worked in a variety of leadership and administrative capacities with Sentara Healthcare in Norfolk, Virginia. Ricks went to Sentara for a one-year administrative fellowship after earning his master's degree in health administration at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis.

He earned his undergraduate degree in communications and business administration at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. He stayed on the East Coast for eight years and has been happily back in California for 15 years.

Outside work, Ricks enjoys spending time with his family and finds balance in life by participating in Ironman competitions—events he describes as "painful days." The most recent Ironman he completed was in May 2018. He enjoys his time "pounding the pavement," cycling and swimming and says Santa Monica is the perfect place to do all three.

"Some of the same attributes you need to be successful in Ironman competitions also apply to what we do every day at Saint John's," he says. "We have to make sure our caregivers have the right knowledge, training, tools and support to have an exceptional personal experience at work and to provide our patients with the same experience." 

# Q & A

## Success is the Only Option

### The co-chairs of the Power of Partnership Campaign aim high.

BY NANCY BRANDS WARD

PHOTOGRAPHED BY PHILLIP GRAYBILL

The Power of Partnership Campaign—launched to raise \$150 million for Providence Saint John’s Health Center and its affiliate institutions—is co-chaired by two dynamic women from the Saint John’s Health Center Foundation: Mary Flaherty and Gretchen Willison. Flaherty, foundation trustee since 2003, has chaired the board of directors of Providence Saint John’s Health Center and currently chairs the foundation board. Willison has served as a trustee of the foundation board since 2003.

Both women have extensive backgrounds in civic leadership in support of a variety of social, religious, health and educational entities. Willison led a campaign that raised \$220 million for the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels and is the recipient of the 2017 Cardinal’s Award for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Flaherty’s family has been involved with Saint John’s for more than 40 years. Her father, Jim Hesburgh, is a trustee emeritus and former chair of the foundation. Flaherty has supported several educational institutions around Los Angeles.

We asked the co-chairs to describe the Power of Partnership Campaign.

### Why is the campaign called Power of Partnership?

**Mary Flaherty:** We recognized that for the health center and its affiliate institutions to reach a potential beyond what we can even imagine today, we need to have a full partnership between the community friends and advocates, trustees, board members, physicians, researchers, grateful patients, nurses,

support staff and administration in raising the funds necessary to do so.

**Gretchen Willison:** The word “partnership” also describes the collegial atmosphere of Saint John’s where collaboration across disciplines is the norm in providing the best care to our patients. A defined advantage our physicians have is that they can take research and, when appropriate, apply it to patient care without the layers of bureaucracy that a university hospital has. We have a community hospital with university-level care. When we embrace and depend on and advocate for our partnerships, we are a stronger institution.

### Why is now the right time to launch a major fundraising campaign?

**MF:** We are in an exponential growth phase in all areas of the health center. We have recruited excellent physicians and researchers over the past several years who are making incredible advances in their fields. We need to act now to maintain this momentum. Because we’re smaller than some of the other medical institutions in our area, we’re able to achieve our aspirations in a more efficient and timely manner.

**GW:** Our new chief executive, Michael Ricks, possesses the vision and tenacious energy to transform this campus, and we need to make sure he has all the support he needs to make our aspirations a reality.

### Who is the campaign aimed at?

**GW:** We’re trying to more than double what we have been raising the past few years. This is a comprehensive campaign aimed at the whole community. Our trustees, board members, physicians, caregivers, researchers, administration, nurses, grateful patients, foundations and friends in the community who value excellent health care are supporting this

effort. Every gift matters. Providence Health System will contribute up to \$30 million in increasing matching percentages as our total climbs.

### Why do you anticipate the campaign will be successful?

**MF:** We are blessed with an incredible fundraising team at our foundation. Each individual is committed to achieving our goals.

**GW:** The campaign has been in silent phase for 12 months, and we’ve already raised \$106 million. We planned it for success, and we are working with all our partners to make sure we succeed.

### Why should the Westside community care about this campaign?

**MF:** This funding will raise the bar of excellence in health care in our community. The community and well beyond will benefit from the advances in research in cancers and brain health, while having personalized, superb treatment at the patient level in all areas—and especially in cardiac care, women’s health and orthopedics.

**GW:** Saint John’s is integral to the fabric of the Westside community. We’re here to serve the people of this community. It’s our legacy and our goal to make sure we provide excellent care to the community we serve.

### What is satisfying about your work as co-chairs of this campaign?

**MF:** I find it satisfying and exciting because on a daily basis my interaction with donors and doctors reminds me that I am a part of an incredible institution with a vision for the future in health care and research.

**GW:** It’s satisfying to be able to give our caregivers the tools with which to provide excellent care and conduct their ongoing research. 📞



# A COLLECTIVE PURPOSE

**THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIP  
CAMPAIGN ENSURES COMPASSIONATE,  
QUALITY CARE INTO THE FUTURE.**

*BY SHARI ROAN / PHOTOGRAPHED BY FRED SIEGEL*

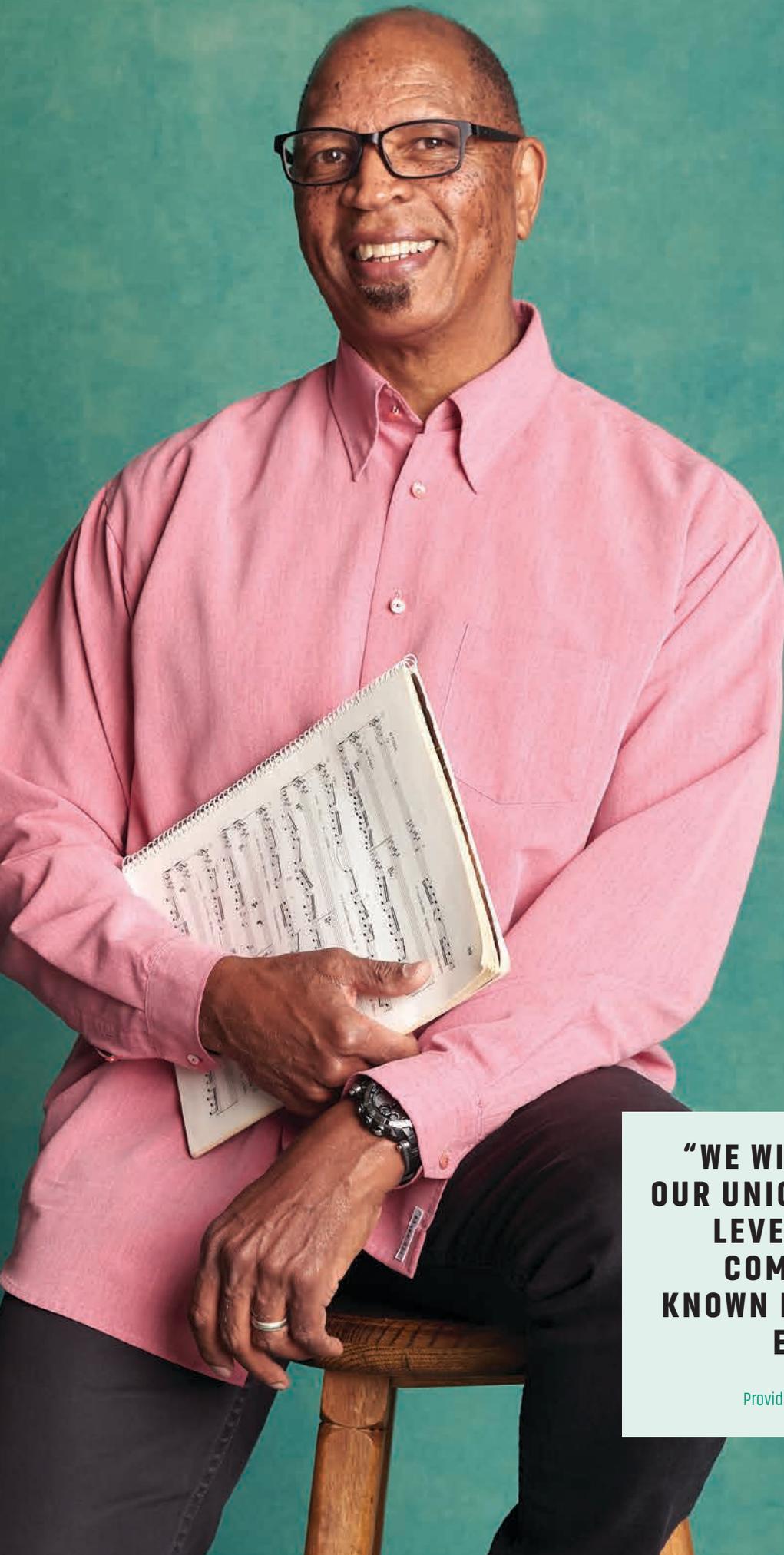
Life had already delivered a series of blows to Ron Campbell when the Los Angeles man, 66, found himself at Providence Saint John's Health Center's emergency department on a June day in 2016. Campbell, a semi-retired software engineer, had just returned to Los Angeles from Miami where he had planned the memorial service for his oldest son, who had died after a long illness.

While in Miami, Campbell suffered a brain aneurysm and underwent surgery to place a coil in the ruptured artery. When he returned to L.A. in late June, he fell ill his first night back, and his wife, Debra Jeane, took him to Saint John's.

"She didn't hesitate," Campbell recalls. "She said, 'Saint John's is the place to go.' Saint John's is where she brought me, and I'm glad she did."

Campbell was admitted to the hospital and treated by Jason Tarpley, MD, PhD, medical director of the Pacific Stroke & Aneurysm Center and the leader for Providence-St. Joseph Health system's clinical stroke research. After Campbell was stabilized and further tests were performed, Dr. Tarpley placed a flexible stent in the artery to replace the failing coil.

Ron Campbell, a stroke survivor, is back to hiking and singing in his church choir, thanks to Dr. Jason Tarpley and the Rapid Response team.



**“WE WILL CONTINUE TO CULTIVATE  
OUR UNIQUE BRAND OF UNIVERSITY-  
LEVEL CARE AND RESEARCH IN A  
COMMUNITY HOSPITAL SETTING  
KNOWN FOR ITS PERSONALIZED AND  
EXCEPTIONAL EXPERIENCE.”**

— Michael Ricks, Chief Executive of  
Providence Saint John's Health Center and John Wayne Cancer Institute

Rapid Response team members:  
Dr. Jason Tarpley, Melanie Lynch,  
RN, John Michael Matilla, RN, Alex  
Ortega, RN, and Dr. Frances Fan



But Campbell's hospitalization also included compassionate, attentive and personalized care that lifted his spirits and reaffirmed the goodness of life. Grieving for his son and suffering from the aneurysm, Campbell poured out his troubles to the physician he had just met.

"Dr. Tarpley introduced himself to me, and he just sat down and he allowed me to share with him what had just happened related to my son and then, eventually, me," says Campbell, who has since resumed an active life of hiking, playing guitar and Native American flute, learning piano and singing in various choirs and as a soloist. (He even just released his own CD of "easy listening" hits.)

"I could really tell and sense that

he grappled with that and was sympathetic," Campbell says. "I could not have asked for a better physician in Dr. Tarpley. When I'm around him, I feel like he's a brother."

### QUALITY CARE FOR ALL

The newly launched Power of Partnership fundraising campaign is about people like Ron Campbell. The campaign establishes goals to provide the most advanced and high-quality medical care possible within an atmosphere of gentle healing, says Bob Klein, president and chief executive of Saint John's Health Center Foundation.

"Great health care takes the added ingredient of philanthropy, which serves as a catalyst for researchers, doctors

and clinicians to take us places we haven't been before but we know is the right place to be going," Klein says.

The Power of Partnership is an unprecedented campaign to secure \$150 million in private philanthropy for Providence Saint John's Health Center, which has served the Santa Monica and Westside communities since 1942. Groundbreaking in its scope, the campaign will transform the health center, John Wayne Cancer Institute and Pacific Neuroscience Institute, driving advancements in technology, research and patient care, as well as helping launch four new specialty care institutes.

The project will raise funds to secure the type of highly trained personnel and innovative technology required to

deliver top-level medical care. But it will also ensure that the values underpinning the Catholic health care tradition—compassion, dignity, justice, excellence and integrity—thrive into the future, says Michael Ricks, chief executive of Providence Saint John's Health Center.

Physicians, health center leadership and foundation trustees have played a key role crafting the campaign goals and ensuring that donor gifts will have immediate impact on patient care and research discoveries, Ricks says. These goals include research to advance new discoveries, training of health care personnel and better use of data analytics.

"We will continue to cultivate our unique brand of university-level care and research in a community hospital setting known for its personalized and exceptional experience," he says.

Already the campaign has received strong backing from the friends, donors and trustees of Saint John's Health Center Foundation. This group of men and women are visionaries, innovators and leaders whose generosity has propelled a small community hospital into a world-class health center, says Mary Flaherty, chair of the Saint John's Health Center Foundation board of trustees and co-chair of the Power of Partnership campaign.

"There is great power in partnership and all it can accomplish," she says.

### STATE-OF-THE-ART CANCER CARE

Through the Power of Partnership, Saint John's will advance services in every area of clinical patient care, including cancer. For most of the health center's history, cancer research and treatment has been an area of great pride. Funding will help establish a new inpatient infusion center for chemotherapy and immunotherapy, a new clinic for breast cancer surgery and new programs in urological cancers.

The campaign will advance and strengthen breast health programs launched in 2018 by Janie Grumley, MD. Dr. Grumley is a leader in

oncoplastic surgery—an innovative treatment that combines breast cancer surgery with the dignity of cosmetic reconstruction in one procedure.

She has also opened the Benign Breast Clinic at Saint John's to help women with any breast health concerns, and she has established procedures to move patients through the testing and diagnostic process quickly—providing supportive nurse navigators to assist patients through the entire process. "My approach is to get to know my patients and they get to know me," Dr. Grumley says. "It becomes a lifelong friendship."

Funding is critical to hiring physicians who are skilled in the latest advances in cancer—a field that has been revolutionized in the past decade by advances in minimally invasive surgery and immunotherapy. Steven O'Day, MD, executive director of the John Wayne Cancer Institute and Cancer Clinic, is an international leader in the use of targeted therapies and immunotherapies in treating cancer, such as the PD-L1 class of medications now widely used in treating melanoma and some types of lung cancer.

In urological cancer care, Saint John's has also emerged as a destination for care. Timothy G. Wilson, MD, chair of urology and urologic oncology at the John Wayne Cancer Institute, was one of the pioneers of robotic prostate cancer surgery. Mehran Movassaghi, MD, director of men's health at Saint John's, has brought new choices to prostate cancer surgery, including a minimally invasive treatment for prostate cancer called high-intensity focused ultrasound (HIFU).

### ADVANCING NEUROSCIENCE

Brain health requires a team of experts at the Pacific Neuroscience Institute and Saint John's working together to solve the complex challenges caused by stroke, brain cancer, Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. With campaign funding, the Pacific Neuroscience Institute will build and support a team of data

## the Power of Partnership

GOAL

\$150 million



RAISED SO FAR

\$106 million

3 EASY WAYS TO DONATE

To join Providence Saint John's Health Center and the Power of Partnership in caring for your community, please visit [SaintJohnsFoundation.org](http://SaintJohnsFoundation.org), text POPMAG to 41444 to give now or scan the QR code below.



experts to analyze patient care and outcomes, furthering innovative brain health treatments.

For example, Saint John's has launched a Neuroanatomical Surgical Skills Laboratory to develop master surgeons and replace traditional surgery with minimally invasive techniques. The Brain Health Center at Pacific Neuroscience Institute has also established a highly innovative Cognitive Fitness Gym to apply the most recent research on how cognitive and physical activities bolster brain health and prevent disease.

PNI is home to the world's top leaders in minimally invasive surgery for malignant and benign brain tumors, including the use of natural orifice surgery to remove tumors through the nose, mouth or ears. Moreover, the stroke treatment program at Saint John's is a highly rated, fully accredited program that ensures timely, advanced stroke care designed to prevent long-term brain damage.

"Our collective goal is to continue to set the pace as a global leader, revolutionizing comprehensive brain health," Ricks says.

### A BROAD RANGE OF EXCELLENCE

The campaign will also foster growth in cardiovascular, orthopedic, digestive and women's health at Saint John's with the creation of four new institutes.

"By creating these new institutes, we will bring value and convenient care to residents of the Westside," Ricks says. "The new institutes will help us attract top physicians, advance clinical research and meet the specific needs of our community."

The Heart and Vascular institute will capitalize on the health center's history of firsts in cardiac care. Now, through a strategic partnership with the University of Southern California, Saint John's is providing extensive cardiovascular surgical care to patients on the Westside. The campaign will further cardiovascular services by supporting a new structural heart program with a multidisciplinary team dedicated to advancing minimally invasive procedures.

In maternal-child health, the campaign will establish a Women's



Brain checkmates: Founders of the Pacific Neuroscience Institute demonstrate how keeping the brain active and agile is fundamental to brain health. From left: Dr. Chester Griffiths, Dr. Santosh Kesari, Dr. Howard Krauss and Dr. Dan Kelly

Health Institute, which will focus on breast, urological, gynecological, pelvic and mental health services as well as augmenting the health center's highly regarded maternity services. A portion of the campaign funds will go toward upgrading the infrastructure needed to continue delivering excellent care at the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), recognized as a Community Neonatal Intensive Care Unit by California Children's Services for its outstanding level of care.

Saint John's orthopedics services, which includes the highest quality, highest volume joint replacement

program on the West Coast, will be able to grow, attracting talented new physicians, surgeons and rehabilitation specialists with the campaign's support and creation of an Orthopedic and Spine Institute. The campaign will help expand its implementation of robotics in knee and hip replacements in this rapidly developing field, bringing advanced technology and procedures to maximize patient comfort and healing.

### LEADING THROUGH RESEARCH

Providence Saint John's Health Center is a unique hybrid of a caring,

community hospital and a research-oriented medical institution. Research is at the core of both the John Wayne Cancer Institute and Pacific Neuroscience Institute and will be central to services at the four future institutes, Ricks said.

“One of the great things about Saint John’s is the unique synergy among our many specialists,” Dr. O’Day says. “When physicians and researchers are able to work side-by-side in a collegial way, the results are exponential. This type of collaboration occurs every day between Providence Saint John’s Health Center, John Wayne Cancer Institute and Pacific Neuroscience Institute, producing far greater efficiency and maximum benefit for our patients.”

With the support of campaign funds, the John Wayne Cancer Institute—in conjunction with Saint John’s—will improve its bioinformatics capabilities with robust expansion of collaborative biospecimen research and clinical databases. The institute will also proceed with vital upgrades to its research infrastructure, development of staff who focus on groundbreaking molecular and immune-oncology clinical trials, and investments in gene sequencers, fluorescence microscopes and other crucial equipment.

Additional funding is also needed to increase salary support for faculty so the institute can continue to recruit and retain the world’s best cancer research professionals. The success of the campaign will create an endowment for the Fellowship Training Program—the oldest and strongest of its kind in the country.

At Pacific Neuroscience Institute, founded in 2016, the Power of Partnership’s success will promote research and clinical trials in a wide spectrum of neurological and cranial disorders, including benign and malignant brain tumors, pituitary tumors and related hormonal disorders, stroke and other neurovascular diseases, vision and hearing disorders, facial pain and adult hydrocephalus syndromes, movement disorders such as Parkinson’s disease and essential tremor, plus Alzheimer’s disease and other neurodegenerative disorders, and autoimmune syndromes.

## “ONE OF THE GREAT THINGS ABOUT SAINT JOHN’S IS THE UNIQUE SYNERGY AMONG OUR MANY SPECIALISTS.”

– Dr. Steven O’Day, Executive Director of the John Wayne Cancer Institute and Cancer Clinic

While pregnant with her son, Barron, Shelby (left) learned she had cancer. She is alive today—and thriving as a mother—thanks to the innovative immunotherapy cancer treatment she received under the care of her oncologist, Dr. Steven O’Day (right, lifting Barron). Immunotherapy forever changed Shelby’s life—and her son’s life.





Heart patient and philanthropic supporter Tom Wertheimer joins Dr. Peter Pelikan (far left) and Dr. John Robertson (far right) in welcoming Dr. Raymond Lee (center right) of USC to the team.

## HIGH-TECH AND A SOFT TOUCH

Excellence in health care cannot be sustained without equal attention to both technology and the human side of care. The Power of Partnership campaign addresses both. Highly competent, compassionate nurses are a crucial aspect of Saint John's care. The Institute for Nursing Excellence, through funding from the campaign, will provide Saint John's nurses with lifelong learning through professional mentorship and education. This alliance will directly benefit patients, integrating nursing research and evidence-based practice into the delivery of care at every level.

The campaign also will fund new technology, such as the implementation of a state-of-the-art nurse call system—a vital enhancement to

communication among nurses, physicians and their patients.

Health care communications is a rapidly evolving field. Through campaign funding, Saint John's physicians will be ready to develop virtual reality technology and the use of smartphone applications for real-time, two-way communication with physicians, nurses and patients. A new Telehealth Center will give the hospital access to virtual clinic visits plus video feeds to connected devices and home monitoring programs to build better, more efficient partnerships between patients and their care teams.

This new virtual health network will greatly enhance Saint John's overall strategic goal—to move patients from episodic visits toward a comprehensive health and wellness program.

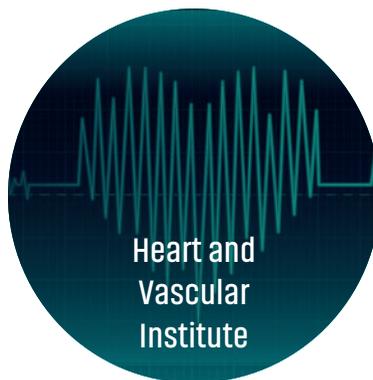
## NOW IS THE TIME

This is a remarkable time for medicine—and it brings enormous challenges, Klein notes. Recent developments in technology and data analysis are advancing the delivery of health care at an astonishing pace. At the same time, patient-care models are shifting, and guidelines for medical reimbursements are tightening. The Saint John's Health Center Foundation has launched the Power of Partnership campaign because it recognizes the urgency of this moment, he says.

"In this time of rapid change, Saint John's depends on generous funding to initiate vital new programs, to enhance training of personnel, to develop crucial technology and to make necessary capital improvements," Klein says.

## EVOLVING INSTITUTES

LEADERSHIP PLANS TO CREATE FOUR NEW SPECIALTY CARE INSTITUTES TO JOIN THE CANCER AND NEUROSCIENCE INSTITUTES.



The success of this campaign will ensure that the internationally recognized research and inspired, sensitive care will continue to benefit patients, the community and the world. It will ensure Ron Campbell's experience as a Saint John's patient remains the norm.

Dr. Tarpley continues to monitor Campbell's health with annual follow-up tests to ensure that all is well. "When I walk into Saint John's, I feel embraced," Campbell says. "People are so warm and welcoming. It's just a great atmosphere in which to receive health care. You feel really comfortable and confident that your needs are going to be met." 

### JOIN THE PARTNERSHIP

With your support, Saint John's will continue to lead, driving progress and delivering cutting-edge health care throughout the Westside, Southern California and beyond.

We are counting on you to share our vision for what is possible, to link arms with us, to join our community of friends, patrons, physicians, nurses and volunteers as we partner to make this historical initiative a success. This is the beginning of an exciting new chapter in our legacy. The commitment we make today will shape the Saint John's of tomorrow—and generations to come.

For more information on supporting Saint John's and the Power of Partnership campaign, please call 310-829-8424.



# Tangible Benefit

The Lowe family's philanthropy will impact the community for years to come.

BY LAUREL DIGANGI / PHOTOGRAPHED BY KREMER JOHNSON PHOTOGRAPHY

Robert J. “Bob” Lowe, founder and chairman of Lowe Enterprises, was initially drawn to the real estate business because he wanted to work with tangible products and to provide lasting developments and services to his community. “Real estate’s much different than the toothpaste business,” he says, “where once the tube is used, you throw it out.”

Forty-seven years later, with Lowe’s two sons, Mike and Rob Jr., serving as co-CEOs, the firm has acquired, developed or managed more than \$25 billion in real estate assets. Yet Lowe’s philanthropy has played an even larger role in providing lasting service to the Santa Monica community—in particular to Providence Saint John’s Health Center.

Lowe, a Saint John’s Health Center Foundation trustee and Providence Saint John’s Health Center board member, and his wife, Beth, recently contributed \$1.5 million to the foundation’s new Power of Partnership campaign. “We want Saint John’s to be a leader in its medical capabilities and want to play a small role in protecting that position in the community for its long-term future,” Lowe says.

The donation is directed to both the health center in general and also to its heart and cardiovascular service line, which provides comprehensive cardiovascular diagnostic and therapeutic services to the community. “We’ve been particularly supportive of the heart group,” he says. “I’ve watched them grow in their capacity and ability to care for heart patients.”

Just as Lowe’s business grew from humble beginnings, his and Beth’s 50-plus-year association with Saint John’s was also a “step process.” As Lowe recalls, it all began when Beth gave birth at the health center to the couple’s two sons. They began making regular donations to Saint John’s, and as their financial ability grew, their donations and involvement increased. So did their family—all six of their grandchildren were born at Saint John’s.

For those considering donating to Saint John’s Power of Partnership campaign, Lowe encourages them to look around the community to see what an important role Saint John’s plays. “You will not find another institution that does more for the health and care of our citizens, whether they are able to pay for their services or not,” he says.

As both a board member and former patient of Saint John’s, Lowe says his experiences have been overwhelmingly positive.



“I’ve been extremely impressed with the commitment of our doctors to provide world-class care that’s both patient-friendly and technologically advanced.”

“I’ve been extremely impressed with the commitment of our doctors to provide world-class care that’s both patient-friendly and technologically advanced. The same holds true for our nurses. They’re top-notch in their

profession and, more importantly, bring a real love, care and commitment to our patients. That’s what Saint John’s is all about.”

“Bob and Beth are truly generous people who have dedicated their lives

to giving back to their community, especially Saint John’s,” says Bob Klein, president and CEO of Saint John’s Health Center Foundation. “We are beyond grateful for their engagement with us and their philanthropy. Their support of the Power of Partnership Campaign will have an immediate impact on the health care we’re able to provide to our patients.”

As philanthropists, Lowe says that he and Beth “are particularly focused on families and children, especially those in most need in the community.” They’ve served on various boards, raised funds and made generous contributions to organizations such as Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles and Claremont McKenna College, to name a few. A board member and past chairman of the Los Angeles YMCA, Lowe led a program to raise \$30 million for branches in its most underserved communities. As vice-chair of the First 5 LA Commission, Beth steered the effort to allocate \$650 million from Proposition 5 funds to a quality preschool program for 4-year-olds in Los Angeles County.

Lowe sees the future of health care as marked with challenges. The Power of Partnership campaign will help confront those demands.

“The technology of health care is rapidly changing and improving our ability to treat diseases and injuries that just a few years ago were untreatable, but we have to face the economic issues that come with the cost of new technology,” he says. “I believe our current private health care and insurance system has produced the best health care in the world, but we’re going to have to continue to grapple with how we control costs so health care can be available for all parts of our population.”





# CREATING LASTING CHANGE

THE FOUNDATION'S  
COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND  
GRANTEES FOCUS ON THE  
ROOT: BUILDING CHILD  
AND FAMILY RESILIENCE.



## THE GIFT OF HEALTH

The Community Impact Fund (CIF) was established by Saint John's Health Center Foundation to support our local health care partners in improving the health of our community. Each year the CIF committee reviews applications and makes grants to entities, striving to improve the health of local residents. In this issue of Saint John's, we present the fourth in a series of stories on recipients of CIF grants. Our story highlights organizations that serve children, youth and families.

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“THERE CAN BE NO KEENER REVELATION OF A SOCIETY'S SOUL THAN THE WAY IN WHICH IT TREATS ITS CHILDREN.”

– Nelson Mandela

Just weeks after the birth of her son, Arvind, Cynthia Klingelfuss was feeling something just wasn't right. On a routine postpartum visit to her doctor, she mentioned that she was struggling with debilitating anxiety and dark thoughts. The doctor handed her a flier for a counseling service but offered little in the way of help. The weeks wore on, and things just got worse.

“It was terrible. I was scared to even walk out my door. There was nothing out there that was actually frightening, but it felt like everything was a threat. When my baby napped, I became overwhelmed with anxiety because I knew when he woke I'd need to feed and take care of him,” says Klingelfuss.

Finally, in desperation, the 35-year-old new mom called the Postpartum Support International (PSI) hotline. What happened next was a blur and a godsend.

PSI connected Klingelfuss with the Providence Saint John's Child and Family Development Center (CFDC), which is supported by grants from the Saint John's Health Center Foundation Community Impact Fund, The Atlas Family Foundation, Carl and Roberta Deutsch Foundation, and the Stockel Family Foundation. Sure enough, as soon as Klingelfuss made contact with the CFDC, a situation that seemed bleak and terrifying took a turn for the better.

“The difference between someone just pushing a flier at you and someone talking to you and telling you, ‘Hang on, we have help for you’ is huge,” says Klingelfuss.

That help came. After an assessment, a therapist began twice-a-week visits to Klingelfuss' Palms apartment through the Perinatal Wellness Program—a program for low-income families who are expecting a child or have a child under age 1.

The therapy sessions, which sometimes included Klingelfuss's husband and infant, centered on talk therapy, but Klingelfuss says they were much more. When the therapist learned Klingelfuss was worried about not having a suitable crib for Arvind, the CFDC purchased one. And when Klingelfuss and her husband had troubles in their relationship, the CFDC stepped in to pay for couple's therapy.

Klingelfuss learned about child development, healthy attachment and sound parenting practices. Mom and child were also referred to another parent and baby weekly support group.

The experience—described as wraparound services because it provided therapy but also referrals to other services that promoted family health and well-being—slowly helped stabilize Klingelfuss. “I used to go to such a dark and hopeless place,” she says. “I didn't have anyone to talk to. But talking to my therapist, learning what we did and getting the

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BY VICTORIA CLAYTON / PHOTOGRAPHED BY CARLY BALDWIN

support we needed meant we could start parenting in a healthy way.”

Klingelfuss’ story is one that CFDC executive director Ruth Cañas says she’s happily seen repeated time and again. Over the last 25 years, CFDC has not only provided services to individual clients, they’ve been community mental health trailblazers, introducing the Westside to the idea that getting help for mental health should be accessible to all and isn’t something to be ashamed about.

“We’re in schools, preschools, anywhere we’re needed,” says Cañas. “We’re constantly going out into the community to

**17.9% OF CHILDREN HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO PHYSICAL INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE IN THEIR LIFETIME.**

build relationships and try to get rid of the stigma that comes with mental health.”

It’s worked too. The center now serves about 500 ongoing patients a year. Through emergency response counseling, education and other outreach, however, the CFDC estimates it reaches about 1,000 families and provides the Westside with more than \$1 million of community benefit each year.

Making lasting change—real community impact, one healthier person at a time—is the whole point. By the time Arvind celebrated his 1st birthday, Klingelfuss was able to reenter the workforce. With her family mentally and physically resilient, she took a part-time job at a language school.

Now she’s employed full-time as an administrative assistant at the Brazilian consulate, and her family remains solid, thriving and hopeful. They recently participated in a beach day hosted by the CDFC, and Klingelfuss continues to meet once a week with her therapist. They usually do their sessions outside at a nearby park. The therapist has been able to help Klingelfuss navigate work and family issues but also process anxiety and grief when Klingelfuss’ father fell ill and died.

“When I started with the Child and Family Development Center, I was just

## ADDITIONAL CIF GRANTEES WHO SERVE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

### SANTA MONICA EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The CIF grant supports student wellness programs that teach mindfulness education to sixth grade students. The grant also provides for staffing of school health offices to better assist students with complex medical conditions.

### SOUND BODY SOUND MIND FOUNDATION

This UCLA program, supported in part by a CIF gift, provides for fully equipped fitness centers and professional development training at two area high schools and one middle school. The program improves student fitness and has elevated state-mandated fitness test scores.

### SANTA MONICA FAMILY YMCA

The CIF grant helps support a National Diabetes Prevention Program founded by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Program participants, who are overweight and have prediabetes, attend 25 one-hour classes and receive 150 minutes a week of physical activity.

### BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF SANTA MONICA

The CIF award supports the Healthy Lifestyles Wellbeing Project, which is aimed at building children’s ability to make informed decisions about their health, behavior and lives. Club members have shown increased physical activity and better knowledge of unhealthy behaviors, based on project evaluations.

### CATHOLIC BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS

Funding from the CIF has helped expand the Live BIG health and wellness programs. The program has led to more Big-Little matches. Catholic Big Brothers Big Sisters also provides holistic group mentoring programs to youth and families.

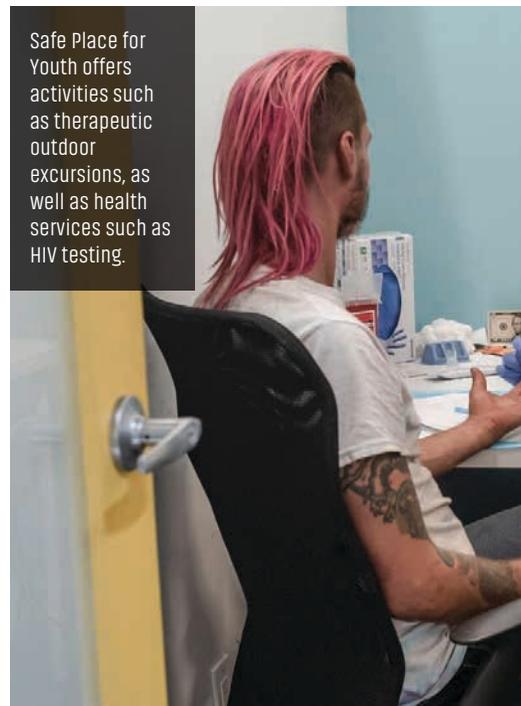
Cynthia Klingelfuss, son Arvind and husband Timothy Keesler have become a stronger family unit with help from the CFDC.



**7.4% OF CHILDREN AGES 3 TO 17 HAVE A DIAGNOSED BEHAVIOR PROBLEM.**



Safe Place for Youth offers activities such as therapeutic outdoor excursions, as well as health services such as HIV testing.





ABOUT 17% OF CHILDREN AGES 3 TO 17 HAVE ONE OR MORE DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.



told it was a wonderful program and that they would help me.” Now some two years later, Klingelfuss says that was an understatement. “This isn’t just help. This has been a lifesaver for my family.”

Shoring up the most vulnerable people—including children and young adults—has become a key priority of Saint John’s Health Center Foundation Community Impact Fund. Another Westside nonprofit, Safe Place for Youth, is also in sync with this mission. The Venice-based organization, which is about to embark on its third year as a Community Impact Fund grant recipient, provides services for homeless and at-risk youth ages 12 to 25.

About 100 homeless young people come through Safe Place for Youth’s doors each day. Financial support from the Community Impact Fund has meant the organization can employ a case manager who oversees health and wellness services, says Rachel Stich, deputy director of Safe Place for Youth.

Most of the youth who experience homelessness have been victims of trauma. Many are from abusive family situations and have experienced violence out on the streets, says Stich. Without a roof over their heads, they more often than not enter Safe Place for Youth with their mental and physical health in tatters.

“Before they’re able to move forward with their education and employment, we have to address their physical and mental health,” says Stich. “The whole process is a journey toward stability. Health and wellness are so essential to helping someone transition away from

the streets and achieving that stability.”

The case manager is in charge of connecting youth who walk through the door with urgent and essential medical care, mental health counseling, psychiatry and support with substance abuse recovery. In addition, they introduce youth to in-house mindfulness classes, art therapy, therapeutic outdoor programs and additional services that might assist their physical and mental well-being.

Stich says having a dedicated health and wellness case manager who oversees and coordinates care for the youth has been a serious game changer. “We’ve had this incredible increase in utilization of health and wellness services as a result of having our case manager who specifically focuses on that.”

As an organization, Safe Place for Youth has also been able to expand the services offered. What started eight years ago as a tiny, volunteer-led day program for homeless youth now includes support for locating permanent housing or reuniting the youth with their families when feasible and safe. They’ve also been able to develop innovative programs like their Host Home program, which solicits and trains community volunteers to host young people as they search for more permanent housing—akin to a study abroad host family program.

“This year through our new programs, we’ve been able to house 129 youths,” says Stich. “We have a long way to go, but that shows we can do something about this problem.” 



# Obligated to Help

Trustee Chris Newman envisions a world where everyone would step up.

BY SANDI DRAPER

PHOTOGRAPHED BY THE MATTHEW SMITH

Chris Newman has developed a simple philosophy about giving during her decades as a philanthropist: “All of us who are fortunate, we have an obligation to help.” The Saint John’s Health Center Foundation trustee considers herself fortunate to be able to give both time and money, and she credits her husband for the opportunity.

“My fabulous husband of 61 years has worked so hard and so successfully that his work has allowed me to give so much,” she says. Dick Newman founded AECOM, a multinational company that provides design, building and project management. He retired from AECOM but didn’t find retirement to his liking, so he started a new company, Global Infrastructure Solutions, Inc. “He works 24/7 and is enjoying every minute of it,” Chris Newman says.



The Newman family has made a generous commitment to the foundation's current Power of Partnership Campaign. Unlike previous fundraising campaigns, this one isn't targeted at building physical space but rather at fulfilling a list of crucial needs to better care for patients established by leadership, physicians, researchers and caregivers.

"Providence Saint John's Health Center and its institutions are all excellent at what they do," Newman says. "This campaign will allow them to acquire what they need to go from excellent to exceptional."

The family's pledge will be divided equally between the health center, John Wayne Cancer Institute and Pacific Neuroscience Institute. "Beyond that, use of our contribution will be left to the organizations to spend," Newman says.

"Chris and her family continue a legacy of lifelong support, and we could not be more grateful for her three decades of service. As a recent Board Affairs Committee chair, she was very influential in attracting a younger generation of supporters and trustees to Saint John's," says Bob Klein, president and CEO of Saint John's Health Center Foundation.

Newman, who was born in Warsaw, Poland, immigrated to Canada with her family when she was 3. The family later moved to the East Coast of the United States. As an adult, Newman, her husband and three sons moved to Santa Monica in 1972. "The minute we got here, we loved it," she says, remembering her relief at not having to bundle three boys into snowsuits to step outside during winter. The family has grown to include four grandchildren.

She began volunteering while she was a stay-at-home mom. Her connection to Saint John's formed in 1987 when she was among a group of women who helped established the Irene Dunne Guild, named for an acclaimed actress who was a lifelong supporter of the hospital.

Newman would go on to be president and co-president of the guild. By 1995 she was invited to become a trustee of the foundation, which provides leadership and philanthropic support for the health center, JWCI and PNI. Newman is a former member of the foundation's Executive Committee and previously served as co-chair of Board Affairs Committee, which is charged with recruiting new trustees. She now serves on the Nurses Committee.

"Providence Saint John's Health Center and its institutions are all excellent at what they do. This campaign will allow them to acquire what they need to go from excellent to exceptional."

"The foundation is made up of wonderful people who—without exception—are extraordinary. They are talented people, and many have become like family," Newman says.

The foundation currently has 95 active trustees, 12 physician trustees, as well as seven life trustees and three emeritus trustees. But new faces are always needed, and the Board Affairs Committee is charged with finding new trustees.

"To continue our success, we must get the younger generation involved," Newman says. "They bring creative ideas and new contacts—in addition to financial support—to the foundation."

Newman's admiration of Saint John's was cemented in the late 1980s when she was successfully treated for lymphoma at the health center. When she recovered, she was determined to repay the center for the care she received.

More recently, one of her sons has been a patient. "We all love the doctors and nurses at Saint John's. The care he gets is wonderful," Newman says.

Her good works are shared throughout the Los Angeles community. Over the years, Newman has devoted herself to the Juniors of Social Service, which supports educational, recreational and social service programs; the Children's Institute, a nonprofit dedicated to the treatment and prevention of child abuse; Blue Ribbon, a women's support group benefiting The Music Center; and the LA Philharmonic, to name a few.

Her widespread dedication is in keeping with her overall philosophy on generosity: "If everyone contributed," she says, "maybe it would meet all of our philanthropy goals." 🍷

# Gifts of Time and Treasure

Chuck and Judy Beck give to Saint John's to help the community.

BY ROBIN HEFFLER / PHOTOGRAPHED BY KRISTIN ANDERSON

Chuck and Judy Beck first met some 17 years ago when they lived in the same condominium complex in Santa Monica. After being introduced by their real estate broker, Judy used her design skills to help Chuck refurbish a new home he had purchased. Their relationship grew into a marriage strongly focused on giving back to the community through volunteer work.

That includes providing support to Providence Saint John's Health Center. In addition to volunteering at the hospital, Chuck and Judy recently made a provision in their wills to leave Saint John's with a charitable donation. "I appreciate that Saint John's is a community hospital that serves such a great need and doesn't turn anyone away," says Judy.

Born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio, Chuck had been a longtime bond specialist at Fiduciary Trust International in New York when he moved to Los Angeles to run the company's local office. He retired in 2000 and began volunteering at the Saint John's front desk the next year.

Chuck became acquainted with Saint John's through his internist. He received a new hip at the hospital eight years ago and recently had surgery to replace a knee. "It's such a high-quality institution—a pillar of the community since 1942 that retains the compassion and focus on personal care that the nuns first brought to it," he says. "It feels like family."

He won the Health Center's 2008 Volunteer Values in Action Award and receives great satisfaction from his weekly work on Thursday mornings—greeting people when they first arrive at the hospital, helping them sign in, giving out visitor passes and answering questions.

"I also escort people to where they're going," he says. "A lot of people really appreciate that when they're stressed out about being in the hospital or are visiting for the first time."

Judy was a Saint John's hospital patient in January when she had back surgery that enabled her to resume dancing four days a week. The Boston native, who retired from her design business, has volunteered in the gift shop on Thursday afternoons

## THE GRACE OF LEGACY GIVING

Legacy gifts, such as bequests, are made through charitable estate planning and can have significant tax advantages for you and your heirs. There are many additional reasons to consider a legacy gift:

- Charitable bequests are viewed as one of the most meaningful expressions of gratitude for care received.
- It allows you to leave a legacy in an area that may be close to your heart.
- You may be able to make an impact greater than you thought possible.
- Legacy donors may be eligible for special recognition and amenities.

Our experienced staff can work confidentially with you and your financial advisors to help ensure your charitable wishes are fulfilled. Please contact Andy Trilling, vice president of principal gifts, at 310-449-5246 or [Andrew.Trilling@stjohns.org](mailto:Andrew.Trilling@stjohns.org).

for the last eight years. In 2018 she won the Volunteer Values in Action Award, which recognizes excellence, justice, compassion, integrity and dignity.

"I love the gift shop," says Judy, who also enjoys painting and has donated prints of two of her paintings that hang near the Flora Thornton Conference Room. "A lot of people who come in use me as a therapist. They're stressed over a loved one being in the hospital, and I listen to the stories they tell. I've also made friends with so many of the nurses and women doctors. And because they don't have time to go shopping, I get to be their fashion adviser."

Like other gift shop volunteers, Judy is a member of the Irene Dunne Guild, which develops, participates in and supports a variety of ongoing volunteer projects, events and fundraising initiatives at the health center. Her first financial contributions to Saint John's began years ago, when in lieu of Christmas gifts for her



Chuck Beck volunteers at the front desk of the health center while Judy Beck is a longtime volunteer in the gift shop.

many design clients she made donations in their names to the health center.

One of the Becks' first donations as a couple was to establish an endowment for the ongoing education of the nursing staff. They went on to make a legacy gift—putting the health center in their wills—and are now discussing establishing a charitable gift annuity.

"The Becks are among a group of health center supporters who give of both their time and their assets," says Andy Trilling, vice president of legacy gifts for Saint John's Health Center Foundation.

"Chuck and Judy are truly compassionate people and care for Saint John's. They epitomize philanthropy and

what it means to support something they truly care about," he says. "Coming from the financial world, Chuck is incredibly savvy and we are grateful to have his confidence and support."

"Because neither of us has children, we have a little more money than we need for the rest of our lives," says Chuck. "We are at a stage where helping others is one of our focal points. Why wouldn't we want to support a place that is known nationally and internationally for its quality of care and medical expertise in so many areas? It helps so many people and is still known for the compassionate care of the incredible doctors, nurses and staff, which we have seen and felt deeply both as volunteers and patients." 



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## PROVIDENCE SAINT JOHN'S HEALTH CENTER ANNUAL GALA CELEBRATION

The Providence Saint John's Health Center Annual Gala Celebration was held October 19, 2019, at The Beverly Hilton Hotel. Sponsored by the Saint John's Health Center Foundation Board of Trustees, the annual gala drew 450 guests to raise funds for vital programs and services, celebrate the accomplishments of Providence

Saint John's Health Center and learn about its leading-edge programs and services. The gala raised more than \$805,000.

A highlight of the evening was a speech from Josefa Rivera, a 34-year-old patient who received lifesaving care at Providence Saint John's Health Center from a team led by Dr. Raymond Lee. Under a partnership with Keck Medicine of USC that was launched in 2018, Saint John's provides patients in need of cardiac surgery with around-the-clock access to surgery and the state-of-the-art treatment. With her husband, Edwin, at her side, Rivera thanked her team of doctors that also included Dr. John Robertson and paid tribute to the ICU nurses, hospital staff, as well as the generous donors that helped provide the equipment that saved her life.

The foundation is grateful to Diamond Chairs (\$75,000) Christine and Jordan Kaplan as well as Dinner Chairs (\$35,000): Tina and Rick Caruso, Mary and Jay Flaherty, Stella and Jim Fordyce, Martha and David Ho family, Dominic Ornato, and Donna Schweers and Tom Geiser.

The gala committee included Donna Schweers and Tom Geiser (chairs), Christina Arechaederra, Tina and Rick Caruso, Mary and Jay Flaherty, Lucy and Miles Fisher, Stella and Jim Fordyce, Bernadette and Tim Leiweke, Cara and Paul Natterson, Kate and Ernie Prudente, and Dr. Sheryl Ross. Program participants included Donna Schweers and Tom Geiser (chairs), Michael Ricks, Josefa Rivera, Edwin Xulu, Dr. John Robertson, Dr. Raymond Lee, Dr. Ernie Prudente and Miles Fisher.



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- 1. Michael Ricks and Dominic Ornato
- 2. Cecelia Assaf, Miles Fisher, Kathleen McCarthy Luten
- 3. Kate Prudente and Dr. Ernie Prudente
- 4. Dr. Sheryl Ross
- 5. Diamond Chair sponsors Jordan Kaplan and Christine Kaplan; gala chairs Donna Schweers and Tom Geiser



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6. Bob Klein, Jo Ann Klein, Panta Levy, Mary White, Ed White  
 7. Jim Fordyce, chair, Providence Saint John's Health Center Board of Directors; Mary Flaherty, chair, Saint John's Health Center Board of Trustees; Michael Ricks, chief executive, Providence Saint John's Health Center and John Wayne Cancer Institute  
 8. Michael Ricks  
 9. Miles Fisher  
 10. Dr. John Robertson, Dr. Raymond Lee, Edwin Xulu, Josefa Rivera



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## TALK OF THE TOWN GALA

The 2019 Talk of the Town Gala was held November 23, 2019, at The Beverly Hilton Hotel. Hosted by the Associates for Breast and Prostate Cancer Studies (ABCs), the event raised funds for breast and prostate cancer research at the John Wayne Cancer Institute. Led by president Gloria Gebbia, the ABCs have raised more than \$15 million for research. The gala was chaired by Sheri Rosenblum and emceed by Kevin Nealon. The evening's honorees were Marty Greenberg and Lisa Greenberg, who received the Philanthropic Leadership Award, and Eva Longoria Baston, who received the Muriel Seibert Woman of Power Award. The evening's entertainment was provided by The Commodores.

1. Kevin Nealon
2. The Commodores
3. Seymour and Sheri Rosenblum
4. Lisa Greenberg and Marty Greenberg
5. Eva Longoria Baston
6. Josh Altman
7. Robert Klein, John and Gloria Gebbia, Patrick Wayne





## ANNUAL TRUSTEE DINNER AND MEETING

The Annual Trustee Dinner and Meeting, sponsored by the Saint John's Health Center Foundation, was held December 4, 2019, at Riviera Country Club. More than 160 guests gathered to hear highlights from the foundation, the health center, the John Wayne Cancer Institute and Pacific Neuroscience Institute. The evening included the election of seven new foundation trustees, the introduction of new health center chief executive, Michael Ricks, and the announcement of the Power of Partnership campaign exceeding the \$100 million mark.



- 1. Abbott Brown, Jerrie Ortega Brown, Dr. Ernie and Kate Prudente, Bill Simon
- 2. Dr. Tiffany Grunwald, Michael Ricks, Kelly Davis, George Davis
- 3. Marian and Ted Craver
- 4. Mary Flaherty and Bob Klein
- 5. Lisa Nesbitt, Stella Hall, Rosa Sinnott
- 6. Bob Klein, Marian Craver, Mary Flaherty, Dr. Peter Pelikan, Jill Posnick, Kris Gibello, Michael Ricks
- 7. Dr. Paul Natterson and Michael Ricks
- 8. Gretchen Willison



## NATIVE SONS OF THE GOLDEN WEST MASS AND BRUNCH

A Mass and brunch was held October 13, 2019, at Saint John's to honor the Native Sons of the Golden West and the organization's dedication and service to Providence Saint John's Health Center. For the past 51 years, the Native Sons of the Golden West has raised funds for the Cleft Palate Center at the health center. This year's donation totaled \$85,000. Native Sons has raised more than \$2 million for the care and treatment of children with cleft lip and/or palate and other craniofacial abnormalities. Special guests included James King, grand president, the Native Sons of the Golden West; Stephen Faessel, Southern California coordinator, the Native Sons of the Golden West; Paul Lapachet, chairman, charitable foundation board, the Native Sons of the Golden West; Dr. Reza Jarrahy, surgical director and Cleft Palate Center co-director; Ann Masson, clinic case coordinator, Cleft Palate Center; and the Garza Family.



(From left): Kathy Yawitz, Sandy Line, Evelyn Guerboian, Loraine Sinskey, Marion Benell, Jean Markarian, Nancy Wu

## IRENE DUNNE GUILD LUNCH AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

The annual Irene Dunne Guild Installation Lunch was held November 13, 2019, at Shutters on the Beach in Santa Monica. Chaired by IDG members Maria Arechaederra and Sylvia Balbona, the event included the installation of officers for 2020. New board members were welcomed and gratitude paid to exiting board members, including Evelyn Guerboian, who ended her two-year term as guild president. Janis Gallo was voted in as the new IDG president.

## COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND CHECK PRESENTATION BREAKFAST

Saint John's Health Center Foundation distributed more than \$1.4 million through its Community Impact Fund (CIF) to Westside community health partners serving vulnerable and underserved populations at a January 9 event. The CIF was created when sponsorship of Saint John's transitioned in 2014 from Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth to Providence Health & Services.

Saint John's leaders were on hand to honor the grantees, including Bob Klein, president & CEO, Saint John's Health Center Foundation; Michael Ricks, chief executive, Providence Saint John's Health Center; Carl W. McKinzie, founding committee chair of the Community Impact Fund Advisory Committee and a Saint John's Health Center Foundation trustee; Michael Wayne, chair of the Community Impact Fund Advisory Committee and vice president and secretary of the John Wayne Cancer Institute Board of Directors; as well as members of the Community Impact Fund Advisory Committee.

The CIF Advisory Committee awarded grants to 21 organizations including these new recipients: the Bandini Foundation, Catholic Charities of L.A. – The Landing at St. Robert's Center, Claris Health, OPICA, Safe Parking LA, St. Monica Catholic Schools, Vision to Learn.

### CIF ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**Bottom Row** (from left): Dr. John M. Robertson, Carl W. McKinzie, Kathleen McCarthy Kostlan, Charles F. Smith

**Top Row** (from left): Justin Joe, Steaven Jones, Bob Klein, Mary Flaherty, Michael Ricks, Michael Wayne, Paul Makarewicz



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Associate Professor of Neurosciences, Department of Translational Neurosciences and Neurotherapeutics; Director of Drug Discovery and Nanomedicine Research Program

An elderly couple, Beth and Bob Lowe, are featured in a modern interior setting. Bob is standing in the background, wearing a dark suit jacket over a light-colored shirt. Beth is seated in the foreground, wearing a light-colored blazer and a patterned scarf. The background shows a staircase and a window with greenery outside.

# THANK YOU BETH & BOB LOWE

for your generous support of the Power of Partnership campaign.

Gifts like Beth and Bob's \$1.5 million donation drive advancements in technology, research and patient care. When you give a gift to Saint John's Health Center Foundation, you can help fund the kind of innovative health care that results in cures and improves quality of life. Your gift will make a lasting change, helping others and the Westside community we all love.



Please give now at [SaintJohnsFoundation.org](https://www.SaintJohnsFoundation.org)  
or call 310-829-8424, Monday through Friday,  
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# Saint John's

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- PAGE 26 -

**Ready to Help** | Bob and Beth Lowe  
look to the future



- PAGE 32 -

**Family Affair** | The Newman family  
embraces a legacy of giving

“Our patients  
tell us they  
have an  
exceptional  
experience  
when accessing  
services at  
Saint John’s  
and that’s a  
credit to our  
frontline staff.”

—MICHAEL RICKS,  
Ready for the Challenge  
- PAGE 14 -

